Difficulty in getting medical certificate for physically challenged

2874. SHRIRK. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that physically challenged are being deprived of the benefits they are entitled to under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities and Protection of Rights and full participation) Act of 1995 due to non-issuing of certificates by the medical authorities in the Government; and

(b) if so, the number of such people are facing difficulty in getting medical certificate from the Government for the purpose of employment, relief or admission to educational Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per information made available by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Medical Boards have been constituted by the Department of Health in the Central Government Hospitals for issuing Disability Certificates according to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Rule, 1996.

Tension at Indo-Bangia Border

2875. SHRI R PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, 'Bangia border holting up: BSF' which appeared in the Times of India dated the 30th November, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address the problems of Indo-Bangladesh border highlighted in the news-item?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMl): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.